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INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0058
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 001015

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [UNGA](#) [UN](#) [GT](#)
SUBJECT: Demarche Delivered: December Vote on "Defamation of Religions"

REF: 09 STATE 122637

(SBU) Human rights officer delivered demarche on the "combating defamation of religions" resolution to Luis Carranza, the MFA's Director for Multilateral Affairs. Carranza said Guatemala will very likely adhere to its past practice of abstaining when the resolution comes before the plenary session at the UNGA for a final vote the week of 7-12 December. Carranza said it would be very difficult for Guatemala to change its vote to "no" at this late date given that the language in the resolution in the current version remains essentially the same as in past drafts. Carranza, however, admitted that the resolution was a highly political issue and that Guatemala's position was "not carved in stone." He noted in closing that the Papal Nuncio, Mons. Paul Gallagher, had requested a meeting with Foreign Minister Rodas to also discuss the resolution.
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